



Holywell Primary School

Tolpits Lane, Watford, Herts, WD18 6LL

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Headteacher: Mr Coert van Straaten MA. Ed, Dip Edu, NPQH

we are a learning community with the spirit to succeed

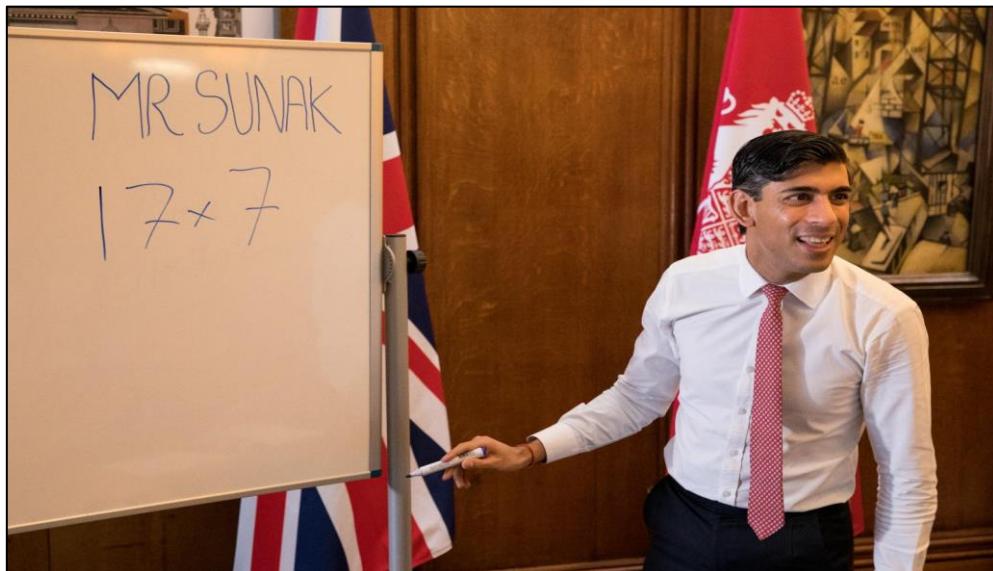
5th February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

The Right Honourable Rishi Sunak MP – Chancellor of the Exchequer

On Friday 26th January 2021, Year 6 Birch were very fortunate to be joined in their maths lesson by Mr Rishi Sunak, the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Mr Sunak joined the lesson and completed some maths problems with the class. The children then had the opportunity to ask him challenging questions about himself and his role in government. This was a great opportunity for pupils to meet one of the most important people in the government, especially during the current challenges faced by all.

We are very thankful to Mr Sunak for his time and also to Mr Russell, the Member of Parliament for Watford, who very kindly made this possible.



Parents' Evening

We would like to remind parents that it is not too late to book your appointment for Parents' Evening next week. If you need help booking your appointment, please contact the school office and they will be happy to help.

Tuesday 9th February 2021	3:30pm to 6:00pm
Thursday 11th February 2021	5:00pm to 7:30pm

Nursery Application

Children born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018 that are due to start Nursery in September 2021. The closing date for Nursery applications is Friday 26th February 2021.

Parents are able to apply here: <http://www.holywell.herts.sch.uk/our-school/admissions>

We will again offer 15 hours and 30 hours child care each week.

Half term Free School Meal Vouchers

We will be issuing the food vouchers to parents whose children are entitled to Free School Meals for the half term. Information on how to redeem the vouchers will be sent out next week.



Do you qualify for Free School Meals?

If you are not registered for Free School Meals and believe you might be entitled, please check via the Hertfordshire County Council website on the link below.

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Managing Bubble Sizes

We have been contacted by a few parents who have requested that their children come back to school. As coronavirus cases in Holywell and the surrounding area are still very high, we do not feel we can make our bubble sizes much bigger. We know many parents have reasons to ask for their children to come back, but currently we will only consider cases where there is an absolute necessity. These reasons include – if parents are not able to continue to manage their children's learning, parents qualify as a critical worker or the child comes under the vulnerable child category.

We will continue to only take new pupils into school on a Monday. This is so we can manage and maintain social distancing and stop the mixing of pupils in school. We must keep staff and pupils, who are in school, safe. Please contact the school office if you qualify under any of the categories listed above. New applications will be considered on a case by case basis. We have to take a

tough stance at present as COVID-19 cases and deaths are still very high, particularly in the Watford, Holywell area.

Breakfast and After School Club

We have successfully completed our second week of Breakfast and After School club provision. If your child currently has a school place during restricted attendance then you can make use of our Breakfast and Afterschool club. Please contact the school office for more details. We will continue with the club up to at least Friday 5th March 2021.



Half Term

School will be closed for half term from Monday 15th February 2021 to Friday 19th February 2021 inclusive.

Mental Health Week

This week was Children's Mental Health Week. Linked to this, and to raise awareness, teachers set work for children on Google Classroom on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. Hopefully children were able to complete the activities away from their screens, despite the weather conditions yesterday. Pupils were also able to join the enrichment class on Google Classroom which gave a whole host of activities they can do with regards to promoting good mental health.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

Feeling Good Week

Next week is Feeling Good Week. We normally organise a whole range of activities with the PTA for pupils to do in school. In the past, the children have been visited by inspirational speakers. We are just finalising some activities for next week that teachers will set children and these will be posted on the class timetables on Google Classroom.

Ollie Foundation

Foodbank in Watford:

Unit 5 Empire Centre
Imperial Way
North Watford
WD24 4YH
01923 804435
07925 813027

Email: info@watford.foodbank.org.uk

Website: <http://www.watfordfoodbank.co.uk/>



Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 9th February 2021 is Safer Internet Day. The theme for Safer Internet day is An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world. This year in the UK, Safer Internet Day explores reliability online. The internet has an amazing range of information and opportunities online, but how do we separate fact from fiction? Safer Internet Day will be celebrated globally with the slogan: Together for a better internet. Children will be completing some activities linked to Safer Internet day on Tuesday at home and at school. We also include a useful guide to parents on Internet safety here

<http://www.holywell.herts.sch.uk/download/parenting-in-a-digital-world-2/>



I would like to remind parents that children should not come into school if they are required to stay at home because they:

- are ill with virus symptoms
- have tested positive, even if asymptomatic
- have been advised by NHS Test and Trace to do so
- are household members of a positive case, even if that case is asymptomatic
- are required to self-isolate for travel-related reasons

I must stress to parents that taking these steps is absolutely not negotiable. By not following this advice parents are putting the whole school community at risk. We are working extremely hard to deliver learning, support families on many levels whilst keeping ourselves and our pupils safe within school.

The current guidance and restrictions are a lawful requirement and each and every one also has a moral obligation to adhere to these restrictions without exception.

HOLYWELL STAR LEARNERS

Blue	Kameel	This is awarded for his great achievements in phonics
Red	Issac	For his understanding of different religions and how to celebrate different things
Maple	Julio	For following instructions and building a fantastic sandwich online
Sycamore	Damilola	For displaying resilience in maths when identifying odd and even numbers
Hawthorn	Sarah	For her fantastic writing about nocturnal animals
Hazel	Antonia	For her excellent writing about hedgehogs in English this week
Cedar	Amin	For consistently attending all of his interventions and live lessons! And for always ensuring he uploads his work to a high standard
Mulberry	Esmay	For creating our lovely poster for feel good week and educating her peers on mental health wellbeing
Rowan	Nived	For showing a wonderful attitude towards his learning and always taking care of his presentation when submitting work online
Chestnut	Ilaria	For writing lovely information about Ancient Greek vases and how modern ones are made today
Elder	Hannah	For a fantastic free verse poem based on the Greek Myth 'Odysseus'. She used beautiful vocabulary and took a great deal of care in creating a beautiful poem
Birch	Patrick	For showcasing brilliant calculation skills in Maths while solving fractions. Well done!
Elm	Rajab	For his excellent contributions to live lessons

HOLYWELL CHARTER CERTIFICATES

Blue	Preesha	This is awarded for always being kind and polite
Red	Junior	For resilience during his online learning
Maple	Ellie	For being resilient and reflective in her maths work
Sycamore	Isabelle	For being resourceful by using her toys to create brilliant freeze frames
Hawthorn	Maisey	For submitting high quality work in all areas of her learning
Hazel	Noah	For being a positive role model for the rest of Year 2
Cedar	Stanley	For always following the 6 Rs and for being a great helper whilst at school
Mulberry	Christopher	For showing resilience in completing all of his English and maths work online
Rowan	Angel	For showing resilience when sharing her learning online
Chestnut	Lorenzo	For reflecting on his and Chestnut class mental health by becoming 'Draw with Rob'. The children followed his instructions well and they produced a wonderful drawing.
Elder	Khadija	For using her resilience when answering questions in our English and maths live lessons to have a go at answering the challenging questions and succeeding when doing so. She listens intently and I have been very impressed. Well done Khadija!
Birch	Khaqan	For always being resilient and contributing during online sessions. Well done!
Elm	Esa	For being a resourceful, resilient learner and for his excellent contributions to live lessons

